

Remarks

The final Office action mailed May 18, 2005, has been reviewed and the comments of the examiner carefully considered. The allowance of claims 22 and 23, and the allowability of claims 3, 4, 10-17, 20 and 21 is acknowledged. Claim 1 has been amended for further clarification. The amendment to claim 1 does not raise any new issues since it incorporates into claim 1 a feature that has already been included, and considered, in claim 8. Claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 10, now cancelled. Accordingly, entry of the amendments to claims 1 and 8 is respectfully requested.

New claims 24-26 have been added. The subject matter of allowable claim 3 has been re-written as new independent claim 24. The subject matter of allowable claim 12 has been re-written as new independent claim 25. The subject matter of allowable claim 16 has been re-written as new independent claim 26. Entry of the new claims is respectfully requested since they simply recite in independent form subject matter that has been indicated as being allowable.

Claims 8 and 18-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Durber. Claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 10. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection of claims 8 and 18-19 over Durber should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 5 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Macdonald et al. combined with Durber. Claim 1 has been amended to indicate that the web material is cut at a location on the vacuum roll after it has advanced on a portion of the foraminous peripheral surface of the vacuum roll. In contrast, Macdonald et al. discloses cutting the web material with a knife blade 84 wherein the cutting is not located on any roller (see Macdonald et al., Figure 6a). Durber is relied upon for simply showing a vacuum roll. Accordingly, the pending 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of claims 1, 5 and 7 over Macdonald et al. combined with Durber must be reconsidered and withdrawn.

It is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any questions regarding this application, Examiner Gray is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

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